

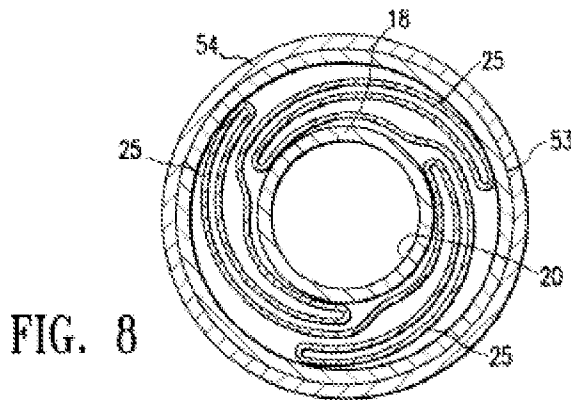
### **Remarks**

These Remarks After Final are in response to the Final Office Action dated **September 19, 2006**. In the Final Office Action, Claims 7-9 and claims 28-29 which depend on claim 7 have been found to contain allowable subject matter. Claims 1-6, 11-12, 14, 22, 25-26 and 64-67 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Gaudoin et al (US. 6296655).

### **35 USC 102**

Claims 1-6, 11-12, 14, 22, 25-26 and 64-67 are rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Gaudoin et al (US. 6296655). The Office Action, referencing figs. 7-8 of Gaudoin, maintains that Gaudoin discloses “a plurality of inflatable members (25)” which do not encircle the channel.

Claims 1-6, 11-12, 14, 22, 25-26 and 64-67 all recite the presence of a plurality of inflatable members. Gaudoin does not disclose a plurality of inflatable members. As can be seen from Fig. 8 of Gaudoin, reproduced below, Gaudoin discloses a balloon (15) with a plurality of wings (25). Notwithstanding the presence of the wings, the balloon is, at most, a single inflatable member. Thus, Gaudoin does not disclose the recited plurality of inflatable members. At least for this reason, claims 1-6, 11-12, 14, 22, 25-26 and 64-67 are patentable over Gaudoin.



Independent claim 25 and claim 26 dependent therefrom, further require the steps of disposing a medical balloon between the inflatable members and inflating inflatable members so that the balloon contacting portions of the inflatable members deform portions of the medical balloon inward.

Contrary to the assertion of the Office Action, these features are not disclosed in Gaudoin. Although Gaudoin discloses the use of “shaping tools”, Gaudoin does not disclose that the “shaping tools” can be in the form of inflatable members which are inflated inward. Moreover, Gaudoin does not disclose disposing a balloon within the so-called “inflatable members” identified in the Office Action, as recited in claim 25 and claims dependent therefrom.

At least for these additional reasons, claim 25 and claim 26 dependent therefrom are patentable over Gaudoin.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Claims 7-9 and claims 28-29 which depend on claim 7 have been found to contain allowable subject matter.

### **Conclusion**

In light of the above comments, Applicant requests that the pending rejections be withdrawn and that the case be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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